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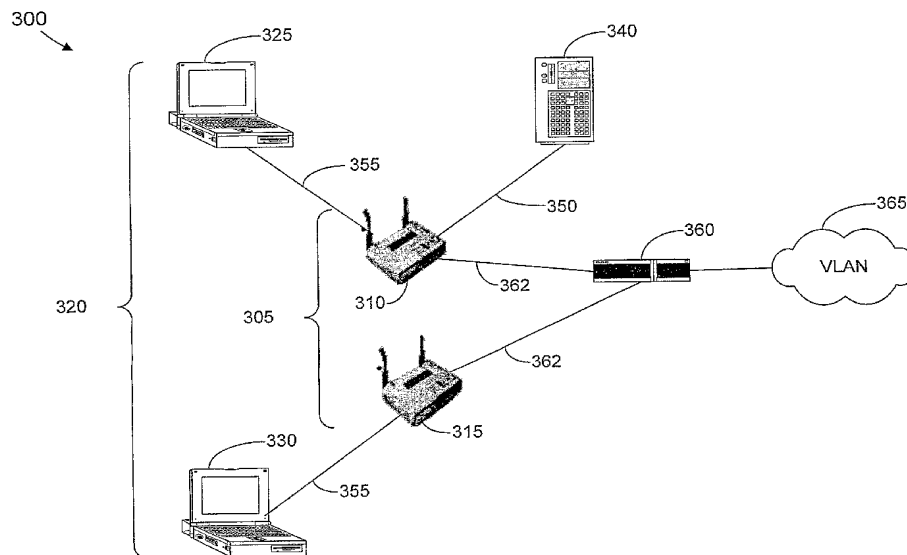
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING QUALITY OF SERVICE TO VoIP OVER 802.11 WIRELESS LANs



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method and system for providing quality-of-service to VoIP over a wireless local access network by providing periodic, contention-free access to a wireless link for voice packets. This is achieved by coupling Session Initiation Protocol ("SIP") signaling for call setup with the Point Coordination Function mode of operation of the 802.11 medium access control. The result is that VoIP call signaling via SIP is tied with availability of periodic time-slots on the wireless medium. The periodic time-slots are used to guarantee contention-free access to the wireless link for voice packets. Accordingly, the present invention, in effect, merges two networking technologies: SIP-based VoIP and 802.11-based wireless LANs.

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